

# **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTRODUCING A NEW MATERIAL SUPPLIER INTO A PRODUCT DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING SYSTEM**

## **Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method and system for introducing a new supplier into a product design and manufacturing system. Once it has been decided that a need exists and that a new supplier should be investigated for introduction, a plurality of supplier and project information is received through a systematic series of stages, milestones and checklists. A variety of milestone and checklist items are completed for each stage and relevant documentation is received and reviewed. A stage tollgate is then conducted, wherein it is determined whether the project should advance into the next stage. If a stage approval is received, the various milestones and checklists corresponding to the next stage are undertaken. By progressing through all stages, all required information is shared rapidly and efficiently and creates a system of record for new supplier introduction which may be subsequently searched and referenced.

Figures

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